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NOVEMBER 24, 1997

Students asked to rescue student centre



Above, Angelo Romano, ECSU's vice president of finance, answers a question at the Student Centre Forum. The panel consisted of student leaders, administration and the architects. Left, students line up at the microphone while the audience listens.

photo by Christopher Allsop

University asks for another \$1 million pledge plus operating costs

also cover an 8% interest rate on the pledge, which will be matched by the U of T, so that by the end of the ten years students will have donated \$1,450,000 towards the construction of the building.

At the student centre forum held last Thursday, Principal McNutt said that if this referendum fails, there will not be any more referenda asking students for money for this

Student Centre Referendum

November 26—27

THIS WEEK: FINANCING, EDITORIAL, ANALYSIS
NEXT WEEK: THE AFTERMATH

BY ROBERT PRICE

The UTM student centre, which since 1989 has been a mere dream for students and administration, will come as close to realization as possible this week when students vote whether to accept a future fee increase.

Last March, students voted overwhelmingly against a "\$36 non-academic fee increase for the operation and maintenance costs of the student centre": 386 'no' votes versus 179 'yes' votes. This year, a different question is being posed to students. Full-time students voting this Wednesday and Thursday will be asked to pay \$52 for mortgage, operating and maintenance costs of the student centre. Part-timers will pay \$23.10. These fees will only be collected when the building is open for operation.

The mortgage and operation levy can be broken down into the following fees: \$27 (or \$15.60 for part-timers) will be charged during the first ten years of the building's operations to pay for the student's \$1 million pledge to the student centre. \$25 (\$7.50 for part-timers) will be charged indefinitely to pay for the operating costs. The \$27 fee will

project. Both McNutt and the student leaders on the panel informed students in attendance that if this referendum failed, the student centre would be delayed indefinitely.

University fails to raise funds, \$1 million donation "misunderstood"

The university has been prompted to ask the students to pledge the extra \$1,000,000 (\$1,450,000 including interest, which is in addition to a \$1,200,000 gift the students gave at the start of the campaign) because the university could not raise the funds they agreed to at the beginning of the campaign. The campaign, under the consent of current student leaders, has shifted to a 1:3 student/private split, but in the original referendum, it was known that the costs would be split 1:6 between students and the university.

According to *Medium* files, the student centre campaign was launched in 1994 with \$1,200,000 raised in student fees and another \$2 million privately donated. The fundraising campaign rolled along, and by January 13, 1997, the UTM development and public affairs office announced that the fundraising drive had been successful in

Principal cont'd on page 3

SAC Erindale promotes 'Yes' side

BY PAUL KUTASI

On Wednesday and Thursday, the students of Erindale will decide the fate of the proposed student centre. Students will go to the polls and vote either 'Yes' or 'No' to accept the levies to be charged once the student centre is built. Despite a 'Yes' campaign that ECSU ran for the referendum that failed in March, SAC Erindale has chosen to run a 'Yes' campaign for this week's referendum.

ECSU President, Marco Marrocco, stated his organization was taking a "neutral stance" and is running an

"information campaign" in conjunction with other student organizations. According to Marrocco, the reason ECSU is taking this stance was because of their failed 'Yes' campaign last year. "The students were ill informed and did not know where the money was supposed to go," said Marrocco.

See SAC Erindale's *Letter to the Editor*, page 9

ECSU has printed up pamphlets for its campaign, and believes it presents the facts. By printing this "informative material," ECSU believes it will be helping "students to make an informed

decision. We want to make sure the students know the facts," said ECSU's Vice President, Angelo Romano. Romano said UTM's student leaders "worked hard to ensure there was no slant."

Upon viewing the campaign literature, Ryan Dollimore, a second year student, said, "It looks a little slanted towards the 'Yes' side of the campaign." Marrocco stated the material "outline[s] the benefits of the student centre," but added that he did not know of any negatives associated with the student centre.

The only organization taking a side
SAC Erindale cont'd on page 2

UTM alumnus wins YMCA peace award

Pardeep Nagra honoured for his volunteer work

BY RENEE SYLVESTRE-WILLIAMS

Pardeep Nagra, a University of Toronto alumnus, was presented with an award on November 21 at the Brampton YMCA. The award is known as the peace medallion and is part of the activities taking place during the YMCA's "Peace Week." Nagra, who works for the Peel department of Health, is very involved in community activities and volunteers much of his time to projects such as Peel Men Against Violence, HIC Heart Health and also the QSS program at UTM.

"I firmly believe in helping people in need" and feels that volunteering is not only good for the person, but also "for the good of the community."

Nagra said that more people are looking to get involved, especially young people who are incorporating volunteering into their lifestyle. "Anybody at any age can be involved," he said, mentioning that even young children can volunteer for structured organizations like scouting.

Debbie Walton, the director of membership services at the Brampton YMCA, said the ceremony is part of the Peace Week program at the YMCA. It is an attempt to recognize individuals or groups who have worked without resources to better the community both locally and globally. People are nominated then the decision is made by a board of people. Walton is hoping that this week will help the community support their YMCA.

As for Nagra, he received his award at the Brampton YMCA, and said that volunteering "is a way of life for me." He urges people to get involved by contacting the Region of Peel Health Department or any institution that would benefit from volunteers.



ECSU general meeting. See story, page 4.

photo by Christopher Allsop

Coffee talk
Features
Page 6

Comics—in colour!
Recess
Page 8

Theatre Erindale
Arts & Entertainment
Page 10

ECC, and postal strike

BY DUNCAN KOERBER

Use UTCAT for due dates during strike

During the current postal strike the Erindale Library will be unable to mail overdue notices to patrons. Please remember it is your responsibility to be aware of the due dates of all library items you have borrowed. You may check the due dates for items on your record by using the Borrower Information section in the UTCAT system (the online catalogue). If you have any questions please ask the staff at the Circulation Services desk or telephone (905) 828-5236.

Erindale College Council meets again

Please note that Erindale College Council will meet on Thursday, December 4 at 3:10 p.m., in the Council Chamber (Room 3130) of the South Building.

The following items will be discussed:

1. Notice of Motion: That Erindale College also be known as the University of Toronto at Mississauga.

(Dean Cecil Houston/Ms. Katerina Warren)

2. Principal's Report

(a) Budget Submissions to Provost regarding Modifications to Plan 2000.

(b) General Remarks.

3. Reports of the Divisional Curriculum Committee * — Changes that will be included in the 1998-99 Calendar.

*Due to budget constraints and the length of these reports, copies will be available from Marilyn Hanna at 828-5233. Please request copies well in advance of the meeting.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Attention all units!
Attention all units!
Campus Police Reports will return next week when we have more room.



SAC Erindale called "undemocratic"

Continued from front

in the referendum is SAC Erindale. SAC Erindale's decision to endorse the 'Yes' side came about during an October SAC Erindale meeting. According to the minutes of the meeting, SAC Erindale believed that "as a student organization [they] had the option of taking a positive, negative or neutral stand on this issue." They came to the conclusion that, "a positive campaign would be the most appropriate stand to take." Allan Craigie, a SAC director, said it was their job as student leaders to "make a decision in the best interests of the students." Paresh Trivedi, the SAC Erindale chair, said their stance corresponds to their mandate as student leaders which is "to foster opportunities to increase and encourage student involvement." Trivedi added at Thursday's student centre forum, that because the other student governments were running information campaigns to inform students, SAC Erindale's 'Yes' campaign was validated.

SAC Erindale believes that the student centre will be beneficial for students. Trivedi said the centre will, "provide opportunities to partake in student life." Craigie added it will bring students together. "We have the Meeting Place, but it's just a lobby."

Sean Cain, a fourth year political science student and former leader of the UTM New Democrat Party, said that SAC's 'Yes' campaign is "undemocratic." "It is the last thing they should be doing," said Cain. "They should be informing students about the student centre," he remarked, adding that, "they should inform fairly, without a bias."

"By presenting a biased opinion, SAC Erindale is dictating what they want done instead of telling us what is happening. They are dictating what they want done without hearing student input," said Cain. "SAC Erindale is supposed to speak for students, not to them," insisted Cain.

Ballot biased?

The Medium has called into question the referendum ballot after discovering that a parenthetical statement appears on the ballot in addition to the referendum question.

NEWS ANALYSIS

BY ROBERT PRICE

"Samples of actual ballot questions" that appear in advertisements in *The Medium* as well as in "Student Centre Referendum" pamphlets ask: "Will you support an annual levy of \$52 which will pay for the cost of a 1 million mortgage and operating costs over the first 10 years of the Centre's operations and an annual levy reduced to \$25 thereafter?"

These annual levies will not be collected until the Student Centre opens (projected for September 1999)."

Concern associated with the "actual sample question" has mounted as a direct result of SAC Erindale's 'Yes' campaign. They encourage students to "vote yes" because, they reason, "If you're not here to use it, you won't have to pay for it—say Yes to the Student Centre." The fact is that SAC Erindale's campaign is using the point in question, which is similar to the fact listed after the question on the ballot.

Sean Cain, an outspoken student who does not believe the student centre should be a priority, said that the ballot is biased because the statement about the levies' implementation appears after the question. "This question is loaded with some information, but not all the information," said Cain.

Cain went on to say that the parenthetical comment "is relevant to their side. It is amazing they didn't

put in the fact that students have already paid \$1,200,000. I find that very relevant."

Rami Herzallah, ECSU's vice president of administration, said that he does not think the ballot has been biased. "It is not misleading," said Herzallah, "[the parenthetical comment] is correct information." However, as ECSU President, Marco Marrocco, said, the question could be subject to modification on Monday morning, and that the issue of the ballot's objectivity will be addressed. "The final version has not been decided yet. I'm not saying it will be taken off, but if it is left on the ballot we will have to justify it," said Marrocco.

In regards to SAC Erindale's 'Yes' campaign and the possible conflict of interests that ensued when SAC chose to use the same single point of information for their campaign platform, Marrocco said that the question was decided well ahead of time so that "it would be made clear that you wouldn't pay unless you were here to use the building." "We never considered that statement to go either way," said Marrocco.

Paresh Trivedi, chair of SAC Erindale, said that he withdrew from the question writing committee because of his stance on the matter. SAC Erindale will not participate in creating the referendum question because of their publicized affirmative stance.

The Medium questions why any information other than the question should appear on the ballot in light of the "information campaign" ECSU has been running for the past few weeks. According to a representative on Election Canada's information line, Election Canada does not allow anything but the question to appear on federal referendum ballots.

ERINDALE COLLEGE CAREER CENTRE

November Workshops

Resumé & Cover Letter:

Discover how to create an effective resumé and covering letter for today's employers.

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Italian Club of Erindale
Presents its Annual Christmas
Dinner and Dance Friday
December 12, at Roma's Place.
OPEN BAR
7 course meal and many prizes.
Members \$54.00, non-Members
\$60.00.

P The Psychology Association of Undergraduate Students @ Erindale.
A The trip to the O.P.P. Station in Orillia has been rescheduled for
U Jan. 7, 1998. Cost for transportation will be \$10.00 for members
S and \$12.00 for non members. The tour will be approximately 4
E hours long, and we will be leaving Erindale around 11:00 a.m.
and will return by about 6:00 p.m. Space is limited so stop by the
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465-1532.

Panel answers difficult questions at student centre forum

Continued from front

raising \$4,300,000. This figure was advertised on the campaign tote board that stood in front of the Kaneff Centre.

At the time, Diana Borowski, director of development and public affairs, said that "the campaign got off to a fabulous start." She added that although the campaign was planned to have only \$2,000,000 raised at the launch, \$3,500,000 was actually raised. "They almost doubled what they set out to accomplish in the initial stages of the campaign," said Borowski in an interview in January, 1997.

"It was not a case of a donor reneging on his pledge, it was a misunderstanding."
—Principal McNutt explaining the whereabouts of \$1,000,000

The fundraising campaign had an embarrassing moment this summer when it was discovered that \$1,000,000 the university thought was pledged to the student centre was, in fact, not pledged. "It was not a case of a donor reneging on his pledge," said Principal McNutt, "it was a misunderstanding." McNutt explained that the million dollars was "assumed" but nothing was in writing. As a result, the university counted this unsubstantiated pledge in their totals. When the million dollars was found to be unaccountable it was removed from all the advertising, and subsequently, all the "information campaign" literature, even though its absence was not explained.

Building smaller

The operating costs asked for in this referendum are \$11 lower than they were in March. According to Principal McNutt, this is a direct result of the university using "more refined numbers." McNutt said that the numbers used in March's referendum "came in overbudget." Since then, the university has "found creative ways to bring in heat from the South Building" as well as scaling back the student centre's budget to \$6 million.

Breakdown of operating costs

Revenue:

\$60,000
\$72,000
\$135,000
\$267,000

[Rental revenue \$60,000, Budget (existing Crossroads building) \$72,000, Student levy \$135,000 (based on 4,200 full-time students at \$25 and 4,000 part-time students at \$7.50)]

Operating costs:

\$213,000
\$50,000
\$267,000

[Student levies \$7 per square foot x 30,400 gross square feet, \$50,000 salary for full-time manager]

Nonetheless, the \$25 operating cost "is shaved pretty fine," said McNutt, adding that, although the \$6 million construction cost has a 10% contingency plan built into it, "there is not a lot of room to move" within the operating costs. McNutt says that in this current plan, the university is counting on the food business to keep the student centre afloat.

The details, however, of how the campus food services will work are still sketchy. McNutt has said that the student centre will be the main place on campus to "get good food," but regarding a definitive plan, he said that he prefers allowing the food vendors to give the university a creative plan on how food should be handled on campus. "They are the experts," said McNutt.

Operating costs

The cost to operate the student centre will be \$267,000 annually. The break down of the costs is as follows:

The student centre will be 30,400 gross square feet at \$7 per square foot for operations and maintenance costs. The \$25 levy will also cover the salary of a full-time manager.

The student centre will be funded through the following revenues:

Food services will be renting space in the student centre at an annual cost of \$60,000. The budget of the existing Crossroads Building will be incorporated into the student centre's, bringing in \$72,000 per year. Student levies are the third source of revenue, bringing in \$135,000 annually (This is calculated with 4,200 full-time students at \$25 per year and 4,000 part-time students at \$7.50 per year).

University to match \$1 million, raise \$1 million

If students vote "Yes" in Wednesday and Thursday's referendum, the Provost of the U of T and Principal McNutt will match the student's \$1,000,000 pledge with another \$1,000,000. According to McNutt, the U of T's \$1,000,000 pledge will be split evenly between the Provost of the U of T and the UTM. McNutt said that the UTM's \$500,000 will not come out of classrooms, but, instead, will come

from various other sources around campus: from over budgets and underspending, and revenue UTM earns from other sources like advertising, conferences and government grants. McNutt indicated that the \$500,000 would not be taken out of campus funds all at once. The cutting would be done over several years.

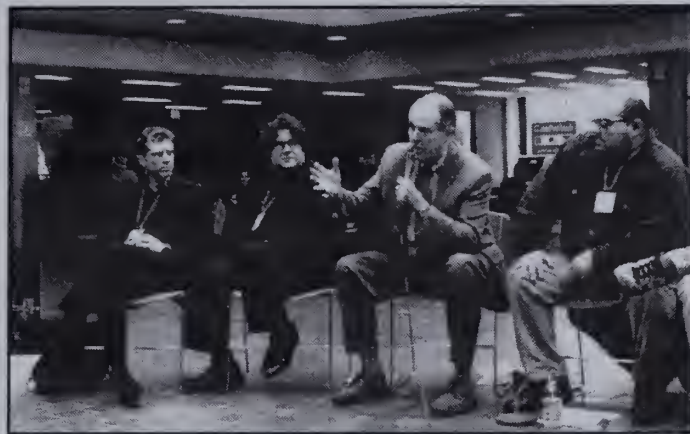
The \$25 operating cost "is shaved pretty fine...there is not a lot of room to move" in the operating costs, said McNutt, adding that in the current plan, the university is counting on the food business to keep the student centre afloat.

The U of T pledge, however, is conditional on the referendum. The U of T will not give the money unless the students agree to the fees.

In regards to the \$1,000,000 still left to be raised, if students vote 'Yes,' administrators and student leaders said corporate fundraising will not be as difficult as it had been if the capital campaign was further away from its goal.

Conditions of original referendum

The student centre project has changed drastically from the building that was started to the building UTM will vote on this Wednesday
Referendum cont'd on page 4



Martin Kohn and John Shnier, the architects of the student centre, sit to the left of Principal McNutt and ECSU President, Marco Marrocco. The architects attended the student centre forum and answered a students' concerns with the building. They said that the building would allow students an opportunity to get together in their own space, away from academics, something that UTM does not offer now. Marco Marrocco and other student leaders endorsed the student centre but urged students to make an informed vote.

photo by Christopher Allsop

U of T HEALTH SERVICES

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Stretch your dollar

U of T Health Services offer up to date travel information. Immunization at reasonable costs.

Call Health Services 978-8030.

- measles vaccinations available
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ECSU general meeting virtually ignored

Blind Duck and Radio Erindale remain ECSU's major concerns

BY ROBERT PRICE AND RAY HSU

Last week the directors, commissioners and executives of ECSU reported to the student body their actions over the last few months. In typical Erindale fashion, the council chambers were void of students.

Marco Marrocco, president of ECSU, led off the executive committee reports. He told the few students in attendance about his role in lending advice to the other members of the ECSU council, and his roles in the organization of this year's orientation and the renegotiations of the food contract, and the Blind Duck budget.

Vice President of Administration, Rami Herzallah, discussed his duties and reported on the committees that he attends. Herzallah indicated that he would fulfill his constitutional duties and forward the minutes of ECSU's meetings to the library.

Angelo Romano, ECSU's vice-president of finance, went through the

motions as well, listing off his accomplishments: organizing the frosh orientation in September; renegotiating the lease of the food services contract; restructuring the Blind Duck's budget to avoid the financial turmoil that was experienced last year; and representing ECSU on the student centre committee.

In his report, College Affairs Director Scott Reynolds reported his work on various committees, particularly his overseeing of Radio Erindale. Reynolds admitted that he had yet to form the Radio Erindale Committee, a

student board whose purpose is to oversee the actions of the station. In the meantime, Reynolds said he had been engaging in methods to try to increase Radio Erindale's listenership. He has also been looking into possible avenues of corporate sponsorship. This, Reynolds hopes, will allow for more capital for the station to work. Currently, the only revenue Radio Erindale receives is from SAC. ECSU does not subsidise Radio Erindale.

When addressing questions about FM cable licence negotiations with Rogers Cable, Reynolds replied that it was a "touchy subject." According to Reynolds, Rogers Cable is no longer giving cable licences to high schools, universities or "anyone anymore" because cable radio would conflict with Rogers' potential plans to provide video-game access through cable.

Pedro Tavares, ECSU's services co-ordinator, who, along with Marrocco, Romano, and the rest of ECSU, played a large role in this year's well planned orientation, discussed his accomplishments as the "social director." Tavares said that one of his next projects would be to organize the UTM grad formal.

Clubs Administrator, Kristina Alvarez, spoke about her duties during clubs week as well as chair of the Green Committee. Rossanna Bisceglia discussed her role as Special Projects director, organizer of ECSU's student appreciation days, the blood donor clinics, and Walksafer.

Advertising Director, Diego Salgado, finished up the reports by informing those in attendance that the advertisements ECSU posts will be more informative than they had been the week prior to the general meeting. Both Salgado and Marrocco agreed with one of the few students in attendance that the ECSU webpage needed to be better administered. Salgado explained he has yet to master the art of being a web-master.

During the general meeting, which was chaired by former ECSU College Affairs Commissioner, Nick Panou, a student voiced concern over the upcoming "Wet T-Shirt Night" pub promotion, suggesting that it appeared as a "desperate attempt to make money." Marrocco explained that the promotion is part of a "Tacky Night" theme. "The Blind Duck is by no means degenerating," Marrocco hastened to say. "[We are] not installing any brass poles in the pub," he quipped, adding that the Blind Duck Pub was not "a money-making machine" and, in fact, it was running at a loss for some time. Romano supported the statement in his report, stating that, contrary to popular belief, the pub was in "financial turmoil." The "Wet T-Shirt" promo is simply a creative attempt to solve the Blind Duck's dismal sales.

The issue of why yearbooks are no longer published by ECSU was also addressed during the open forum portion of the meeting. Herzallah stated that, in the past, a sponsor had contributed at least \$10,000 towards the "astronomical" production costs. He explained that there was often a surplus of unsold yearbooks in past years, and now, without the sponsor, hardcover yearbooks were no longer financially feasible. He added that a scaled-down, soft-cover version may be more suitable.

with files from Tracy Moniz, Michael Schmidt and Paul Kutasi

CORRECTION

An error occurred in the Dean of Students Referendum ad published in last week's Medium.

The sample question in the Part-Time Students ballot should have read: Will you support a sessional levy of \$15.60 which will pay for the cost of a 1 million dollar mortgage and operating costs over the first 10 years of the Centre's operations and a sessional levy reduced to \$7.50 thereafter?

We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.



Here are ECSU's executives as they waited for the quorum to be filled at the first ECSU general meeting of the year. Former College Affairs Commissioner, Nick Panou (second from the right), chaired the general meeting and has been hired by ECSU as CRO of the student centre referendum.

photo by Christopher Allsop

Referendum Wednesday, Thursday

Continued from page 3

and Thursday. Originally, the student centre was to house an athletic facility consisting of a health club, fitness studio, study hall, student lounge, fireplace hall, gallery wall, lobby, a bistro, and student government offices. As it stands now, the student centre will house club and student government/organization space, a restaurant, board rooms and lounge space.

In the first referendum, students voted in favour of paying \$1,200,000 to pay for furniture as well as setting up an endowment for operational expenses. A university document published in 1994 was presented at the student centre forum held last Thursday, which contained the passage: "Operating Funds...A five year levy had raised \$500,000 by spring of 1994 and will raise \$1 million in total for an endowment fund, to offset operating expenses for the student centre." This pamphlet raised the concern that students had already paid for operating expenses and were unfairly being asked to pay again.

McNutt explained that the wording on the pamphlet was incorrect. The students' donation was initially supposed to go towards operating and furniture costs, but was put towards construction costs when the money was needed. "The money was never strictly for an endowment," said McNutt, citing a 1994 User's Committee report that says a second referendum to ask for additional operating funds was to be expected. "It was not done in bad faith. It did change but from day one, but it was assumed that another fee to operate the building would be levied," said McNutt. Although the redirection of student money was not brought forth in a student referendum, McNutt said that because of the new revenue generating scheme, namely the food services in the student centre, it is not an issue to him.

Students have been asked by most student leaders to make an informed vote this Wednesday and Thursday, November 26 and 27. Polling stations will be in the North and South buildings.

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1997 APUS STUDENT SURVEY

The 1997 student survey was mailed to the homes of registered part-time APUS undergraduate students

Due to the postal strike, please return your completed survey to:

Admin. Office
119 St. George St.
Room 300
Mon.-Fri. 9-5

Student Services Office
100 St. George St.
Room 1089
Mon.-Thurs. 9-9
Fri. 9-5

Also, the student offices at:
Scarborough College and PTS@UTM

Please fill out your survey and return in person by **November 30**

For more information, contact 978-3993 or visit our web site at: www.APUS.utoronto.ca

1997 Craft Sale

December 2 & 3
10-6pm

Crafts galore, great gifts!

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Student Appreciation Day

FREE SUBS!

Come in & get'em
Wed. Nov. 26

BLIND DUCK

calendar

November

24

2 for \$1
POP!

25

Don't miss
"Toonie Tuesday!"
(Ending soon)

26

Last Night!
Pool Tournament
& Movies - 7pm

All ages - No cover

27

Tacky Contest &
Prizes Night!

Guy's Best Buns Guy's Best Chest
Grl's Best Legs Wet T-Shirt

Starts at 10pm

28

Open 'til 3

29

If you can smile
when things go
wrong, you have
someone in mind
to blame

*Interested in being
a part of the*

Erindale College Council - ECC ?

Contact Marco
Marrocco at ECSU

GO *vote!*

**Student Referendum
Nov. 26 and 27**

Country Cabinet Raffle
\$100 on display in the Registrar's
Office (value \$275.00)

ECSU

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Mississauga

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From its humble beginnings as a lowly bean to its present legendary status, coffee has become a beverage with a rich, dark and muddy legacy. As one of the hottest, most actively traded commodities on the planet, second only to oil, this black gold has enjoyed a tumultuous history of scandal, controversy, and, at times, warm reception. Presently, coffee is being served up in unprecedented forms and flavours, and is responsible for transforming North American society into a café culture. This café culture has been marked by hundreds of cozy coffeehouses infusing the urban landscape with the aroma of roasted, flavourful grinds wafting into the busy streets, and everyone from 12 to 100 ordering lattes and designer concoctions. Coffee has become a welcome and cherished part of the urban work day, as inescapable as rush-hour traffic and water cooler gossip. In fact, work is considered unimaginable and intolerable without a fortified breakfast of coffee and cream. Although this revered beverage has always attracted a large following, its recent jolt in popularity in the nineties is matched only by the Fifties, when simpler blends were consumed in quantities that rival today's.

Recently, coffee has been exalted within the social milieu, as an excuse to relax, unwind and enjoy stimulating conversation. While at one time, the customary serving of coffee signalled the end of conversation and bidding of farewells, it now reflects the beginning of lengthy dialogues (or monologues, in some cases). And while the majority of cafés include an array of tantalizing desserts and edible delights, they have become mere accompaniments or accessories to the fundamental caffeine fix, upon which the entire ritual is centred. Coffeehouses have become the nineties singles bars, with steamy relationships percolating over brews of java, ushering in an 'instant' attraction, with the sober mingling of minds rather than sexual pick-ups. The old one-liners have been replaced by longer intimate dialogues, the strobe lights by softer, moody halogens and dim candlelight, and intoxication by alert sobriety, safely advancing the relationship to a higher level. Coffee has turned into an aphrodisiac, despite its rumored negative affect on male virility in the 17th century.

The new coffee chic sees earnest café-goers enthusiastically shelling out up to \$4 for a coffee that costs a dime to make. North Americans now consume up to 3.5 cups of coffee a day with people drinking more and stronger coffee than ever before. Steeped in multilayered concoctions of foreign blends and topped with thick and rich creams, these deviations from the original formula shatter the earlier image of coffee, served black, bleak and in styrofoam to night-shift truck drivers and police officers. The new portrait of consumers is of a huge youthful market of pubescent coffee connoisseurs, with money to spare and an intrinsic love for loitering and socializing, and elitist baby-boomers, whose every other indulgence has been picked apart by medical journals.

But what has sent this high octane liquid fuel coursing through the bloodstreams of North Americans? Could it be that our lives

are so boring, mundane and tiresome that we have to keep ourselves from falling asleep? What is the lure of languishing in cafés over endless cups, enduring others' soliloquies? What is it about pastel-coloured coffeehouses that encourages lingering ruminations over these frothy beverages? Perhaps these inviting oases in the middle of our chaotic, harried lives and work days remind us to break and refuel for the cold, gloomy, wintry journey

Coffeehouses have become the nineties singles bars, with steamy relationships percolating over brews of java, ushering in an 'instant' attraction, with the sober mingling of minds rather than sexual pick-ups.

ahead. Or perhaps choosing from an array of foreign grounds and exotic blends makes us feel as though we've distanced ourselves physically and emotionally from our sheltered, daily grinds. Whatever the reason, these shrines to coffee, with their altars of equipment and coffee paraphernalia, prompt worship and reverence to some demigod in a demitasse, temporarily banishing the worries of the world from intrusion into the sacred space.

the mid-1600s, the coffeehouses of England became popular forums for learning and discussion, dubbed "penny universities", after the price of a cup. Even today, one will still find budding poets and writers busily scrawling in their notebooks in café corners, inspired by the flow of thoughts and French Roast. Odes from Bach ('Coffee Cantata') to Bob Dylan have sung the praises of this bitter beverage. Cafés hint at sophistication and refinement of the mind and palate, and have historically been centres of intellectual life. Yet, listening in on the conversations of neighbouring coffee-drinking patrons does not seem to bring any enlightenment or insights, only recycled gossip and mindless chit-chat.

Despite their refined and practiced skill at ordering five-syllable coffee blends, coffee connoisseurs may not be aware of this beverage's full-bodied history, nor the social, political and cultural factors associated with the coffee bean, of past and present. Coffee was said to have been first discovered by members of the Galla tribe in Ethiopia prior to 1000 a.d., when they experienced an energy boost from a mixture of coffee beans and animal fat (a blend not yet readily available at



Despite their cultural contributions to social life, the distasteful economics of coffee cultivation have evolved under less ideal conditions. Despite what seems to be a growing industry spurred by a resurgence in coffee consumption and the fertile growth of coffeehouses, the wealth produced by coffee is inequitably distributed among roasters, traders, and chains like Starbucks. The vast majority of coffee farmers and labourers live at subsistence levels, often earning less than a dollar's daily wage in developing countries which have no control over the commodity rates set by North American markets. Their representation of a smiling Juan Valdez as an integral part of the industry is largely inaccurate. Vast economic disparities have resulted in developing countries, being sustained by the drinking habits of consumers in developed nations.

What café-goers would find equally difficult to swallow is the environmental destruction and devastation caused by the seemingly benign coffee bean.

While it takes only minutes to finish a cup of coffee, it takes seven years for a single coffee tree to produce one pound of coffee beans. In response to high market demands, new high-yield coffee plants have been developed that require highly-toxic chemical fertilizers and pesticides; they all need full sun to survive, thus requiring huge tracts of jungle and rainforest to be cleared for their growth. These hybrids have contributed to soil erosion, wildlife poisoning, habitat destruction, and radical alteration of the ecosystems of South and Central America, where coffee plants are not native. Ordering organic coffee seems to be the simplest, makeshift remedy, thus far.

Nevertheless, there persists an international love affair with coffee, with steamy rendezvous taking place in the world's cafés and coffeehouses. People the world over have developed an addictive passion for coffee, with a distinctive taste for different ways of preparing and consuming the enigmatic bean. The French dip croissants in coffee in the early morning, while the Italians like their espressos and cappuccinos iced or piping hot, sprinkled with cinnamon or cocoa. The Finnish throw elaborate coffee parties, while the Japanese immerse themselves in coffee and pineapple for an invigorating sauna. If you're still not swayed by North America's rekindled love of coffee, or unconvinced by the bustling cafés and the visible symptoms of caffeine withdrawal apparent in the edgy and irritable morning drivers who haven't yet had their fix, consider these stimulating facts. Restaurants across Metro are adding specialty coffees to their menus and "café" to their signposts, a trend that has extended to sushi bars and McDonalds franchises. In efforts to maintain a creative edge over competitors, entrepreneurs are combining coffee-drinking with everything from comic books to the Internet. A course is taught at New York's New School called "Caffeine Culture". And, there is even a comic strip from Adhesive Comics, whose caffeine-fueled hero, Too Much Coffee Man, is pumped up on cappuccinos to right the evils of the world! Just some coffee table trivia to spill the beans over during your next café au lait.

Coffee & Café Culture



UNFILTERED

BY CORINNA NETTA

There must be subliminal messages in the jazzy Muzak, or addictive opiates in the brew, something rational to explain coffee-goers returning religiously in droves, for their daily caffeinated fix.

Some might wonder why coffeehouses are spilling over in the late night and wee morning hours—are these coffee devotees aware that coffee is heavily-caffeinated and tends to produce insomnia? In fact, contrary to popular belief, caffeine affects different personalities in different ways. It may keep some awake for hours, while putting others to sleep, having once been considered an antidote to insomnia. Coffee is most stimulating to extroverts, and those experiencing boredom. People respond more to the caffeine they think they've consumed rather than the actual amount, and it has been shown to speed up metabolism, and act as an antidepressant and headache remedy.

The coffeehouses, each distinctive in their character, personal charm and coziness factor, are reminiscent of salons, the centre of philosophical rumination and political ideation in eighteenth-century France. Perhaps coffee devotees are ushering in the nonchalant, laissez-faire lifestyle that Europeans have mastered into our culture, with a welcome and refreshing infusion of calm into the haste of North American life. Coffeehouses have always been centres for political debate and philosophical pondering. In

Second Cup). By 1453, the world's first coffee shop, Kiva Han, opened in Constantinople, at the same time that Turkish law made it legal for a woman to divorce her husband for failing to provide her with a daily ration of coffee. In 1600, after considerable papal coaxing, coffee was declared by Pope Clement VIII as an acceptable Christian beverage. In the mid-1600s, in North America, coffee replaced beer as New York City's preferred breakfast drink. Over its history, it has been denounced by rulers like England's King Charles II, who made unsuccessful attempts to suppress coffeehouses, claiming men were neglecting their families to discuss business and politics over coffee. Time and time again, the laws were repealed due to public outrage.

Coffee and coffeehouses have borne witness to some revolutionary political events, such as the Boston Tea Party, in which coffee was portrayed as a symbol of defiance for U.S. colonists against the British. Historians have suggested the desire for coffee as one of the causes inspiring the colonial expansion of France, Britain, and Holland. Even the Enlightenment, an age renowned for alert and rational thought, has been associated with increased coffee drinking. During the French and American Revolutions, coffeehouses were among the first to have fostered the practice of freedom of opinion and individual liberty, by enabling all patrons, regardless of their social standing, to speak and be heard in the cafés. In doing so, the meek coffee bean has united society's social schisms and divisions, with Europe's coffeehouses being the first gathering places that were egalitarian in their acceptance of all classes.





Renata "Perky" Arquilla

(hopped up on caffeine after a 7-hour sprint of local cafés, this expert will give you the caffeinated highs and lows of the coffee.)



Corinna "Sugartooth" Netta

(the only non-coffee drinker of the three, this novice will give you a sugar-coated review of the desserts served (if we can keep her still long enough after that much sugar intake)).

In their foreign blend of investigative journalism, a trio of café connoisseurs rated the area's coffee establishments to bring you the best cup of coffee around and:



Mara "Picky" Petrella

(a recent convert to coffee and a discerning connoisseur of taste and culture, she will review the sights, sounds and smells of these urban oases.)

the definitive guide to Metro's hottest cafés and coffeehouses

BY CORINNA NETTA

The Demitasse Awards (or the Demi's) (short for demitasse)

Café Orgasm - The Chocolate Bar (Bloor Street, TO)

DQ: every chocoholic's dream come true—they even sell chocolate body paint (but it's take-out only).

RA: "Coffee that tastes like Turtles...mmmm"

CN: "Mis is mamazing" (translation: "This is amazing" with a mouthful of chocolate cake and caramel stuck in teeth).

Best Food (the accompanying delicacies in between cups)

Bookers (Lakeshore Road, Oakville)

DQ: a relaxing blend of literature and coffee, until being forced to dash out the door due to RA's spilled milk (and coffee) on Shakespeare.

Best Action/Drama

(waitress trips on carpet edge, stumbles to regain balance and drops a cappuccino and pie slice on an unimpressed customer).

The Green Bean (Lakeshore Road, Oakville)

DQ: live music almost every night, playing everything from the harp to blues guitar to vocal chords; and an open air café and courtyard open in the summer.

RA: "The coffee blends are hard to pronounce, but they're good."

CN: (She slid across floor on one of the many coffee beans spilled over onto floor and swan-dived gracefully into cake display—she is cut off from any further sugar intake.)

Best Musical Composition

Bushman's Comic Book Café (Lakeshore Road, Oakville)

DQ: superheroes and coffee served together—so that's why they can leap tall buildings in a single bound."

MP: "I think you have to be a 10-year-old boy to want to drink here—of course, allowance could be better spent elsewhere."

RA: "The coffee is gritty, thick and syrupy" (as she spits out a seed).

Just Desserts (Enfield Place, Mississauga)

DQ: We're not sure—we couldn't see anything because it's too dark. It was so dark that Renata sat at the wrong table after her bathroom break and started talking to a stranger thinking it was us.

"The music is a little loud" (CN yelling to MP over the music).

"Yeah, the news is a little sad" (response by Mara).

Best Selection

Comparé Café & Cocktail Lounge

(Queen Street, Streetsville)

DQ: pseudo-café with dance floor, martini lounge, and cigar vending machine or cigar claw box (indeterminable from where we were sitting).

MP: It's a nice place...but it's freezing."

RA: "It's smoky enough...just associate the smoke with fire and you'll stay warm."

Starbucks (Sherwood Forrest, Mississauga)

DQ: Closest to UTM and a sobering link to Enndale's unofficial pub "The Lion & the Leprechaun".

MP: "Lively and colourful"

Best Performance in a Leading Role

(Girl, angry and irritated by boyfriend's meanderings tells him where to warm his toes (hell) and throws her French Roast on him as she leaves.)

Legend: DQ=Distinctive Quality

Desserts Unlimited

(Lakeshore Road, Oakville)

DQ: a hellish service nightmare on the picturesque Oakville lakefront.

MP: "Can we get our bill?" (to waitress)

CN: "Do you think we could get our bill?"

(five hours later)

RA: "We are trapped here forever...no one will come to save us. Here...here's a serviette—make out your last will and testament."

Best Special Effects

(including music, lighting and visuals).

Honourable Mentions

Future's Bakery & Café
Coffee, Tea or Me

The cluster of coffeehouses on the St. Clair & College strip
Gus' Coffee Truck

The Plantation Tea & Coffee Co.

(King & Fountain, Toronto)

DQ: once a bank, now a place of higher interest.

MP: "Are you sure this isn't someone's living room? It's soooooo cozy."

CN: "They have couches...They have couches!"

RA: "Coffee with a kick—especially with the (hiccup) coffee liquers."

Coziest Cafe Award

Dalmation Café (Queen Street, Streetsville)

DQ: overrun by bikers and owner told us they no longer put the desserts at the front due to a pie fight that broke out years ago

MP: "Can we get that to go?"

RA: "Next..."

Café Demetrés (Bloor Street, Etobicoke)

DQ: every imaginable crepe combo; movie car crash filmed through front window; everyone sings Happy Birthday to the designated victim (RA)

RA burnt her uninsured taste buds on a scalding cup of Columbian Roast and will not be able to review any additional coffeehouses—she's suing for \$2.5 million.

MP: "why wait a 1/2 hour in line in the cold for coffee and crepes unless you're a glutton for punishment...or even just a glutton."

UTM University of Toronto at Mississauga Principal's Student Involvement Awards



Nomination Forms for the annual Principal's Student Involvement Awards are now available. The candidates should be in their senior year(s) (completed more than 9 credits before the current winter session) and have demonstrated a considerable amount of involvement in the improvement of the Quality of Student Life over the length of their academic careers.

Forms can be obtained at the following offices:

Dean of Student Affairs

Registrarial Services

Principal's Office

Office of Dean Houston

Office of Dean Rubincarn

Office of Dean Krull

E.C.S.U. Office

PTS@UTM Office

Room 2115F

Room 2122

Room 3135

Room K121A

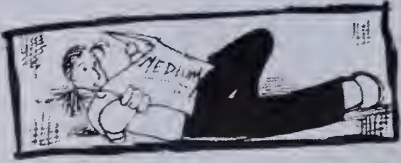
Room 261

Room 2038D

Room 13

Room 131B

The deadline for submission is 5:00pm, February 27, 1998.



RECESS



At last, the secret revealed! Chris Carter's as yet unknown parentage!

SMALL DEMONKS SKEWED VIEWS



The Jolly Green Giant having a "Not So Jolly" day.

Own your own Student Centre!

Out of the rubble of last week's Crossroads Building comes the brand new student centre. Afraid it might get voted down in the referendum??? Never fear, *Recess Page* to the rescue! With the easy model below you can build your own student centre before the referendum ever happens. Place this bad boy (seen below with brief assembly instructions) atop the burned ashes of last week's Crossroads model, and visualize for yourself how the new student centre will appear in Virtual 3-D™. See how the student body will swarm to this newly build structure (cut out Virtual 3-D™ students not included). So go ahead, cut out, build, and enjoy.



Just paste this onto some thin cardboard (old cereal boxes or empty beer cases seem to work), cut out along the line and flaps, fold the flaps back and stand it up atop the ashes of last week's Crossroads Building.

EDITORIAL

MEDIUM

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Congrats to Chris Jackson for beating Mike Rachmel in the playoff finals of the KISS contest. Brush up, Mike. Heard on Q107 Saturday morning at 2:30am. "This one goes out to Robert and all those in the KISS Army, standing uniformed, shoulder to shoulder, holding hands, marching rock 'n' roll style, into the sunset." Wow, I feel so high up here! Okay, now read the editorial people—Read every single word and vote



"Boss, we lost a million dollar donation, what are we going to do?"

"Repaint the Crossroads, plant some dinky trees, and sink the remaining donations into a truckload of beer."

The student centre editorial

Consider these issues before you vote

One of the biggest decisions in years to face Erindale students is this week's vote on funding for the proposed student centre. Students are being asked to contribute \$1.45 million for a \$1 million mortgage, in addition to the \$1.2 million students have already paid.

The most important question is why you are being asked to pay more for this building. The university has failed to raise corporate donations for the project and hasn't been able to meet its own fundraising target. The university also lost a huge pledge because of a misunderstanding involving the assumption that someone was going to contribute a million dollars. Now, even with the help of \$1.2 million of student money (taken from a fund to provide operating costs in perpetuity), the university is asking for students to pay for operating and capital costs. And remember, while the project will go ahead if students vote 'yes', the fundraisers must still try to raise the remaining \$1 million.

Where the university has done an excellent job was in organizing and running the contest that resulted in the winning Kohn Shnier design. The selection committee was made up of renowned domestic and foreign architects, and the response from architects was overwhelming—104 designs were entered. Martin Kohn, John Shnier, and their staff, should be commended for designing a fine piece of architecture. However, while long-time dreams and concepts finally materialized with this design, the money issue remains sketchy—and that alone should concern students.

The referendum campaign has been plagued by improper actions by student organizations and administration. While ECSU has said it takes no official stance regarding the referendum, its "information campaign" was paid for by the university who are obviously interested in its success. ECSU should have kept this student election free from any administrative involvement. Also, the information pamphlet that was approved by student leaders, which includes ECSU reps, undermines ECSU's "objective" information campaign because it leaves out key information that students need in order to make informed decisions.

For example,

- It provides absolutely no breakdown of the operating costs fee. Students should be told exactly where their money is going.
- A question on the back of the pamphlet that reads, "This campaign has been ongoing for so long. What's new?" makes no mention of the lost donation or unsuccessful fundraising campaign.
- The pamphlet tells students that they should be proud of previous students' commitment to this project (and thus, should



vote 'yes'): "...students at UTM must decide by a Yes or No vote whether they will support the commitment made on their behalf by previous students, many of whom are now alumni." Firstly, previous students were committed to an athletic student centre with a very vague design concept unlike that of the current project. Also, there is no reason to tell us that those past students are now alumni, except to push a commitment "guilt trip" on us. How does this fact help students make an informed decision?

• The sample ballot is biased by a statement after the question. (See story on page 2).

This pamphlet attempts to be objective but falls short and the information campaign was very selective towards the positive side.

SAC Erindale's mindless 'yes' campaign is irresponsible. SAC has a right to say 'yes' or 'no' to the proposal; however, the students' council placed just one fact on its ads: "vote 'yes'—if you are not here to use it, you won't have to pay for it." This is a very sly maneuver by SAC to try to win over the undecided, third- or fourth-year voter who is solely concerned about his or her own pocketbook. Students should make an educated decision, and not simply toss this fee increase into the laps of future students because "you don't have to pay for it."

Some students say the \$52 fee is not that much money. Well, it amounts to \$208 over a four-year degree, and remember that full-time students pay \$17 per year to facilitate the Crossroads Building—a part of this building will remain in the new design, and the fee will continue to be charged. These fees add up to \$69 a year—\$276 over four years. We consider the it's-only-\$52 response an indication of students' lack of consideration for history because numerous fee referenda took place and were voted down last spring (including one for a \$36 operating-cost fee for this student centre).

This fee will go to the construction of a building that is not a priority anymore. We wonder if this building will really energize students' incentive to get more involved in student life. Costs to attend university continue to rise, time must be spent earning money to pay off OSAP or buy food, so students have little time to get involved. Ironically, in this age of rising tuition and added costs to university life, students are

being asked to pay another \$52 a year for a building that, even if students are inspired by it, they won't have time to use!

What students should be aware of is that this student centre is extremely important to the university's administration. The college needs this project to help it compete with other universities in attracting students. Not that this is a bad thing, but it means that current students shouldn't be paying so much for the project. The recently secured \$1 million offer by the Provost is good, but it's not an unconditional donation. The university has facilitated this project, but should be a major contributor to its construction as well. Surely this new student centre will become the focus, year after year, of recruitment drives and campus brochures. The least a university can do is provide the rooms and places in which students learn and socialize—students live up their end of the bargain by paying tuition.

What are the consequences of voting against the fee? Some people believe that if this project fails, we will never see any more successful corporate fundraising projects at Erindale. Administration thinks that the corporate community will be wary of helping the College ever again. However, the university's assertion can be countered by a positive view of this project's cancellation—this project could be seen as an anomaly in an otherwise successful record. Erindale's fundraising efforts have been extremely successful from the 1980s until even just recently—the Kaneff Centre is proof of this. Take note of the recent seat sale that raised more money than expected. A failed student centre campaign could be chalked up to unrealistically high expectations and a recession.

Extremely important in considering this question is the university's numbers to determine the operating cost fee (see cover story for details). The Medium's opinion is that the operating estimates are too low. This could be a non-issue if the university is lucky, but if something goes wrong, there is no room for maneuvering. Money could be taken from the college's operating fund, which would hurt other aspects of the school's finances, or students could be asked to pay another fee. Food prices could go up in the centre to compensate for the loss—or the pub could be forced to open only one night a

Student Centre Referendum
Wednesday and Thursday

- the Kohn Shnier student centre design has been critically acclaimed
- students already contributed to the project through a fee levy in the early 90s
- students voted against a \$36 operating costs fee last spring
- a 'yes' vote would contribute \$1.45 over ten years for a \$1 million mortgage to build the centre
- the student centre proposed operating budget is "shaved pretty fine."

week. Losing money may come easy considering that plans include a small convenience store in the building. Most students may not be aware that in the 1980s the Tuck Shop was shut down because it could not turn a profit. The operating costs budget reveals the university's dependence on food sales for the student centre's success, and they may even go so far

as eliminating the North and South building food services to save money.

It is time to finally make our decision on this drawn-out project. Be skeptical of any project that intends to take so much of your money. We recommend reading all the literature and coming to an informed decision, with an awareness of both sides of the issue.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As SAC directors representing the interests of full-time undergraduate students at UTM, we are writing this letter to encourage Erindale students to vote 'yes' in the student centre referendum. We believe the student centre is an important project that would tremendously improve student life on campus and provide Erindale's students with an opportunity to interact with one another that present facilities on campus cannot offer.

The university experience should be a multi-dimensional one that employs both academic and non-academic activities to help students foster greater personal development. The present lack of student facilities at UTM makes it difficult for students to interact with one another and develop their characters and outlooks on the issues that are facing students today. The student centre is the best remedy for this situation and it will have a profound impact on the growth of this campus and on the students who study here.

For the past several months, student leaders from SAC, ECSU, ECARA, PTS@UTM and residence have been

working with administration to press for conditions in the referendum and the subsequent management of the student centre that protect the interests of all students. Thus, in the event of a positive outcome to the referendum, administration has agreed to delay imposing any levies for the student centre until the centre actually opens. Students will be contributing only one third of the cost of the building. This is an unusual situation that would make students of several other Ontario universities envious as it is common practice to raise all funds for non-academic student centres directly from students. Moreover the student centre will be managed by a full-time manager who will be held directly accountable to a management board that will be comprised of a student majority.

Sincerely,

Paresh Trivedi, Chair SAC
 Erindale
 Allan Craigie, SAC Director
 Ryan Duquette, SAC Director
 Mahdi Elabi, SAC Director
 Steve Pontet, SAC Director
 Laurie Schirmpa, SAC Director

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre Erindale: looking hot

Edgar Allen Poe's *The Fall of the House of Usher* comes to mind in viewing Theatre Erindale's *The Hot I Baltimore* because the inhabitants undeniably reflect their confines. On Memorial Day, 1972, it's discovered that the hotel will soon be demolished. Suitably, the vividly portrayed characters convey a sense of dilapidation.

THEATRE REVIEW

BY HEATHER SAUNDERS

The frazzled hotel staff perfectly suit the incorrectly set clock, lack of hot water, and the broken elevator. Michael Kessler, as Bill Lewis, is commanding yet vulnerable and makes the switch unexpectedly, and seamlessly. Brock Young, portraying Mr. Katz, is annoyed and hyperactive. The ultra-bitchy, self-absorbed desk clerk, Mrs. Oxenham, was portrayed on opening night by Sarah Schwartz, and on alternating nights by Natasha Biljetina. Schwartz boasts a voice as overbearing as the huge bun atop her head, and a stare as fiery as the liberally-applied blush on her cheeks.

The residents' lives are no less chaotic. One of the most memorable characters, though lacking lines and seen only briefly, is Adam Bailey's transvestite. Risqué dressing is not unusual for a hotel containing numerous prostitutes. The character least suited to this profession is the young "Girl", played by Delia Cicconi. Whether obsessing over trains or travels, this naive bohemian's enthusiasm and persistent desire for attention does not falter for one second. Her fellow temptress, April Green (Angela McMillan), is forceful and sarcastic, with a bellowing, "Nanny"-like laugh. She can't be imagined without her frizzy hair and well-exposed cleavage. The other "bad girl", Suzie (Annamieke Wade) should be remembered not for her nudity but for her constant energy, and particularly for her sobbing farewell to the residents. There is also Jackie (performed on opening night by Natasha Biljetina and on alternating nights by Sarah Schwartz). Biljetina's Jackie is a domineering conwoman who doesn't bat an eyelash during her snappy delivery of lines. When Jackie's hand, however, is "caught in the cookie jar", her uncontrolled, tearful defense is believable. Her timid brother, Jamie (Terry Costa) is absolutely adorable, whether he's sucking on his angelica stick like a soother, hiding his "shiner" from his sibling, or indulging in alcohol or a woman's



Annamieke Wade (Suzie), Delia Cicconi (The Girl), Michael Kessler (Bill Lewis), and Angela McMillan (April Green) portraying the frazzled lot of the hotel.

photo by Jim Smagata

touch in his sister's absence. Jamie's enemy is the elderly Mr. Morse. Whether looking forlornly at the unmoving elevator or sinking tiredly into his chair or flinging a checkerboard into the air, he too, is irresistible. The other elderly character is Millie, played convincingly by Claire Porter, whose slow-paced walk and occasionally blank expressions are as equally telling as her aged voice. The *Creation of Adam* hand gestures between the mystically aware Millie and Paul Granger III (Michael Battell) verge on melodramatic, but over-the-top does seem to be the desired effect in *The Hot I Baltimore*.

Visitors, too, are high strung. Battell, in his search for his grandfather, a previous hotel resident, is guarded and intimidated in the presence of the overbearing guests, and seems to hide—not sleep—beneath his blanket. Also spending time beneath (or on top of) bedding is Suzie's impatient and insensitive John (read: customer), played by David Yee. The cab driver (Adam Fimio) is equally short-tempered and snarky (only his pants are pink and bell bottomed, not half undone). Fimio

doubles as the lisp-affected, humorously waddling pizza delivery boy. The most frequent visitor to the hotel is Mrs. Bellotti (Jacqueline Leung), the wonderfully pathetic, bug-eyed, wailing woman whose husband has lost his leg, and whose son has become overtaken by alcoholism.

Though the play can certainly be appreciated on a number of levels, the disintegrated lives of characters is reason enough to attend. It's almost two solid hours of watching characters embarrass themselves. For a play centering on an obvious theme of falling apart, this production is incredibly seamless, with a beautifully constructed set, costumes perfectly suited to each individual, tireless performances, and excellent directing (by David Ferry and assistant Zaib Shaikh).

The production continues until November 29, when there is a matinee at 2 p.m. During the week, the show runs from Wednesday to Saturday, at 8 p.m. Call the box office at (905) 569-4369 to order tickets. Student tickets are \$5-\$7, and non-student tickets are \$7-\$10. Please be aware that there is coarse language and a brief (comic) nude scene.

May's murky memories

BY ANDREW BIRSE

Beer and praise flowed freely at Hart House's Arbor Room last Friday night during the recent opening of *Glimpse*, an exhibition of paintings by fourth-year Art and Art History student Heidi May. Her paintings result from an ongoing obsession with the blurry images of her childhood. Distorted record players, rotary phones and ViewMaster disks whiz through the dreamy mental landscapes of the artist's past, speeding on towards obscurity while leaving behind a syrupy trail to mark their passing. In the series Mar. 11/1976, a photo of a giant birthday cake being set before the artist as a little girl is gradually warped beyond recognition, melting into a black void. Mysterious and vaguely familiar at the same time, the images in *Glimpse* come from the same part of the brain that remembers old television shows and favourite childhood toys.



The artist alongside her creation, *Pulse Dial*. Heidi May's paintings are on display at Hart House until December 6.

photo by Vicki Schelstraete

As fellow artsy types deked tables and clueless Arbor Room regulars in order to admire the twenty or so works that hang on the walls, May talked about how the inclusion of obsolete technology in her images relates to her fuzzy childhood recollections: "All the objects [in the paintings] are things that were fads...I think it adds to the idea of unstable memories because these things have sort of disappeared." May herself shows no signs of disappearing, claiming that she still has plenty of memories to get creative with. "It's like going retro. It's fun, when you get into it."

Glimpse is on display in the Hart House's Arbor Room until December 6. More of May's work can be seen in *Don't Mess With Ted*, a group show featuring the work of fourth-year students that is currently on display in the Theatre Erindale lobby.

Quotation of the evening: "Heidi's a prodigious painter...you can quote me on that."—repeated several times by resident trouble-maker Chris Hill.

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photo by Heather Saunders

Sheridan studio professor Paul Kipps enlightened students on his art work in the Dean's Lounge last Wednesday. Although he has been producing art prolifically for about thirty years, he focussed on his endeavors from the 90s. Kipps' sculptural art consists largely of stones and technology acting as a metaphor for the distance between people, and the distance between people and the landscape. He often incorporates an audio element into his work; one installation which intrigued students featured a series of large boulders split in half with speakers adjoining each piece. A kind of dialogue was created through the cleanly-cut faces of the boulders which were placed beside one another. A woman's voice is heard through the speakers; the ominous female voice asks and answers her own questions: "What have I done this time?" "I shouldn't have to tell you." What Kipps did tell was the excitement of receiving commissions and of watching his art work evolve.

—Erin Finley

Anastasia breaks the mould

New full length feature from Fox Animation a visual treat

Watch out Disney! Twentieth-Century Fox Animation's new movie, *Anastasia*, is poised to undo Disney's stranglehold on the animated film industry.

MOVIE REVIEW

BY BROCK WAGER

Based loosely on the Bolshevik uprising in 1916 Russia, *Anastasia* focuses on the orphan girl, Anya, who may or may not be the last remaining member of the Romanov family. Rasputin, the mad monk, attempts to kill off Anya through most of the film for reasons unknown. Though the story follows the path of most recent Disney films (girl meets boy, boy upsets girl, girl sings song, etc.), *Anastasia* does have a slightly more sophisticated twist than most children's movies as much of the film centres on the ultimate defeat of Rasputin.

Outstanding voice-overs by Meg Ryan, John Cusack and Christopher Lloyd, among others, are joined with a good, although not terribly impressive, selection of songs. Despite the rather unbelievable story and somewhat uninspiring music, the animation is simply the best ever shown on the silver screen. Computer animation has been integrated with

hand-drawn cells to create an almost realistic world. The detail in each scene is breathtaking. In the deserted St. Petersburg palace, the characters leave footprints in the dust of a decade of ruin, and the greenish glow of Rasputin's mystical totem is one of the most haunting visual effects in the entire movie. *Anastasia* is definitely a must-see for anyone interested in animation. Judging from the reactions of the children and the adults, Disney may have to do more than just re-issue animated classics like *The Little Mermaid* if it doesn't want to be left in the dust by Twentieth-Century Fox Animation.



Having failed to dispose of the princess many years ago, the evil sorcerer Rasputin attempts to find her once again.
photo courtesy of Twentieth-Century Fox Animation

One of the year's best films

Wings of the Dove reminds viewers of the power of cinema

Over the past five years, Hollywood has been churning out period pieces almost as often as action blockbusters. Some have been received well, namely, any film with Emma Thompson like *The Remains of the Day* or *Howard's End*.

MOVIE REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA

The Wings of the Dove is anything but slow and pointless, which is a common complaint about such movies. British filmmaker Iain Softley (Backbeat) has produced one of the best and most intelligent films of the year.

The story, which is taken from the 1902 Henry James novel, takes place in 1910 London and follows the young, beautiful Kate Croy (played magnificently by Helena Bonham Carter), who lives with her wealthy aunt and secretly loves the journalist

Merton Densher (Linus Roache). The lovers have no hope of living in peace and financial security, for their relationship is forbidden. Although Merton is handsome, witty, charming, and intelligent, he is poor. And even if her affair with Merton was not forbidden, Kate must stay with her aunt in order to save money. Enter a wealthy American named Millie (Alison Elliot, who offers a scene-stealing performance), whom Kate befriends. Kate senses that Millie is warm, kind, and starved for love however, little does she know that Millie is terminally ill.

Kate and Merton look for the opportunity to make Millie fall in love with Merton, to give Millie the love she desires, and to acquire Millie's inheritance. Despite its complex situation, the film is not confusing. It leaves room for speculation and discussion, and that is where *The Wings of the Dove* differs from other conventional films. There is no real

protagonist or antagonist. One can sympathize with all of the characters and be left, at the end, with questions related to justice and morality. The film entrances the viewer, showing the dilemma of Kate and Merton, and how it's impossible not to fall in love with Millie. Her beauty radiates much more from within than it does from the outside. This makes her the most beautiful of all the film's characters.

The Wings of the Dove succeeds not only in capturing the time of the early technological revolution at the turn of the century but also captures all of the beauty, romance, and magnificence of Venice. The final shot will leave the viewer feeling the presence of something grand, yet humble at the same time. You'll leave the theatre feeling like a million bucks. For a film that initially appears so distant, the ending is so close to the heart that it reminds the viewer of the everlasting beauty and power of the cinema.

CELEBRITY TRIVIA

BY LUBNA SWEISS

1. Which character on *Friends* is pregnant in real life?
2. What illness has *Party of Five*'s Charlie been recently diagnosed with?
3. Which actor/director got into a fight with a producer in a restaurant?
4. Sandra Bullock can't live without what kind of food?
5. Which talk show host recently adopted a second child?
6. Which two celebrities are tying the knot?
7. Which Oscar nominee for Best Actress gave birth to her first child?

1. Phoebe 2. Cancer 3. Quentin Tarantino 4. Kentucky Fried Chicken 5. Rosie O'Donnell 6. Jada Pinkett and Will Smith 7. Elisabeth Shue

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Smooth and spicy grave-digging in Vegas

CD REVIEWS

Mase Harlem World (Bad Boy)

When deejay Shadow included a track entitled *Why Hip Hop Sucks* in '96 on his brilliant album *Endroducting*, he had no idea how low it would sink in 1997. Mase (a Sean "Puffy" Combs protégé), and his debut album *Harlem World*, offer convincing testimony to Shadow's claim.



As expected on any album produced by Puffy, most of the tracks feature extremely familiar samples from a variety of popular songs and extremely weak beats. The introduction, rather than setting the tone for the album, rants semi-farcically about the so-called "reality" of Mase's life: Guns, Ghetto and Girls. Oh, how original; didn't N.W.A. do this back in the early 90s? Furthermore, hasn't this particular theme been worked to death by most of the Death Row family? Not surprisingly, the first track on the album, *Do you wanna get \$?* is about money. It sets up one of several recurring themes in *Harlem World* when Mase mentions that he's not here to replace the Notorious B.I.G. If that is indeed the case, would someone please explain why Mase insists on biting Biggie's flow, not just on one song mind you, but on the entire album? He doesn't even do a good job of it, with rhyming schemes such as "Did it fo' the money/Now can you get with me/People wanna know who is he?/He can get busy on Lookin' at Me. Mase's rhymes coupled with Puffy's weak, unoriginal beats (a sentiment echoed in a recent *Spin* article) are an unsettling combination. To be truthful the album isn't all bad. The track *The Player Way* includes MC's *Eighthball* and *MJC* who prove to be an oasis amidst the desert of dry flow that Mase continues to spout. Also, the interesting Nas-like track *24 Hrs. to Live* would be great without Mase. The best track on the album is *I*

Need to Be which features Monifah and a beat which finally matches, if not complements Mase's monotonous flow.

All this aside, admirable qualities do exist within Puff and Mase's tracks. They make great pop songs, containing all the necessary elements, including a catchy "hook". Check out the tracks *Feel So Good* (with its effective Kool and the Gang sample), *Love U So* and *Wanna Hurt Mase?* In effect, Puff and Mase have created a new genre: "Hip Pop". The ghosts of hip hop past are turning in their graves as this review is being written. Rest assured, the combined ventures of Mase and Puff Daddy have definitely buried that once glorious warrior known as hip hop.

—Shevan Bastianpillai

Jacky Terrasson and Cassandra Wilson Rendezvous (Blue Note)

Listeners will find some fine mood music on *Rendezvous*, the kind Hollywood uses for love scenes. Featured on the cover is an alley looking out at the back door of what might be a smoky jazz club, or the place where two lovers secretly meet, which suggests the music's origin.



Rendezvous is an appropriate title, because many of the songs, like *Tea For Two*, *Tennessee Waltz*, and *Chan's Song*, build on the theme of coming together. Although the album emphasises union, it contains an undercurrent of separation in songs like *Autumn Leaves*, *I Remember You*, and *If I Ever Would Leave You*. This juxtaposition of relationships gives *Rendezvous* its distinct 'candle-light-romance' flavour.

Chicago 1987, by Terrasson, is one of the few original songs on the album. All the rest are covers of lesser known songs written by the likes of Herbie Hancock and George Gershwin. Wilson and Terrasson however, do impress their own spirit in these songs.

—Robert Price

Spice Girls Spiceworld (Virgin)

The band you love to hate are back, with an upcoming movie, a commercial tie-in, dolls, magazines and four new singles scheduled for pre-Christmas release. And yet, the Spice Girls managed to record an album too.



While a busy schedule can lead to a rushed album production, *Spiceworld* wavers in and out far more than would be expected of a high status band. The first single, *Spice Up Your Life*, is incentive enough to check out this album. With its techno-infused, danceable beats, latin rhythms and a catchy chorus. This track will leave even the group's fiercest critics humming.

From there, however, there is little that is exceptional about the album. While tracks like *Move Over* and *The Lady Is A Vamp* will catch your attention, they may not keep you coming back as an album this hyped should. The second track, *Stop*, sounds like it jumped right off the late 80s, early 90s Roxette bus. It's kinda goofy, and kinda fun but lacks the substance many fans expect of a sophomore effort from a band with this much energy and following.

Mel C (Sporty Spice) once again proves she can sing but the other four girls lose their voices to mediocrity, leaving only the athletically-inclined Spice with a possible future in the music industry.

The band obviously relies on its image; it was formed through a magazine advertisement, and the albums can't hide that fact (hey, who else could get away with turning a Pepsi commercial into a song, reversing the normal process as only the Spice Girls can). The band is all about fun, and the album adequately conveys that fact. If you're expecting them to grow up, don't hold your breath. The musical maturity often found on a second album doesn't exist here, but the band make no pretensions that it does. The band started as five wacky girls with mixed images, no claims to excessive musical talent, and a desire to party, and they'll probably finish that way.

—Scott Arnold

Death in Vegas Dead Elvis (BMG)



Noted as an up-and-coming electronica act (they opened for the Chemical Brothers's November 9 Toronto show), *Death in Vegas* breaks all the stereotypes of a techno/dance band, with mixed results. Right from the opening track, *All That Glitters*, *Death in Vegas* prove they aren't your typical electronic act.

Their sounds vary from the Barry

White-esque vocals in the opening track to the ska/reggae cover of the English Beat's *Twist & Crawl*, and their multitudinous influences are obvious. Where the band is lacking, however, is in its music construction. With songs averaging six minutes in length, most without vocals, some of these tracks seem a little empty. This may, in part, be due to *Death* member Richard Fearless' deejay history. Each track would make a beautiful mix because of the sparse use of beats and open-endedness. The drawback of this format, however, would be the discontinuity and vacancy that would plague the final execution.

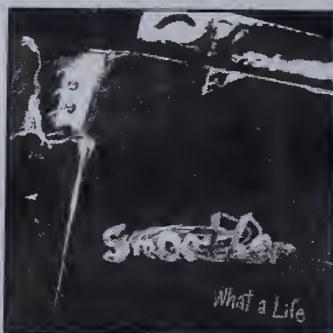
Although the first two singles are mixes, they successfully avoid discontinuity. *Dirt* and *Rocco* both have the laid-back, lounge-inspired vibe that is heard throughout the album, mixing it up with frenetic beats and creating tracks you could dance to, or just enjoy and relax with.

The other tracks that jump out are *Amber* and *Rematerialised*, two eerie and dark soundscapes created through layers of trip-hop style beats and brass instrumentation. They fit in as much on a dance floor as in a 60s horror flick.

While created with obvious talent, *Dead Elvis* leaves a little to be desired as a whole album. Spattered with promising singles, *Death in Vegas* have much to look forward to in the future. With their ability to slide through genres, they have carved a niche in which they can continue to record their brand of electronica even after the trend has died.

—Scott Arnold

Smoother What a Life (EMI)



Smoother is an energetic band from Stoney Creek with a fun, pop-grunge sound. While their current single, *Morgan Le Fay*, is currently getting a lot of radio play on The Edge, the rest of the disk deserves a listen too. *Applecrisp* is a very intense song, as lead singer Andrew Franey explains, because it is "about absolutely nothing at all." Expect to see much of the same type of cynical humour strewn throughout the CD. *What a Life* is a mix of musical influences from all over the Canadian landscape, from Hayden to the Tragically Hip, with *Smoother*'s own pop sound providing the unique ingredient which sets these guys apart from the rest.

—Brock Wager

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Gravediggaz The Pick, the Sickle and the Shovel (BMG)

The Pick, the Sickle and the Shovel is the second release from *Gravediggaz*. Led by RZA from the Wu Tang Clan, this is the follow-up project to their critically acclaimed debut, *6 Feet Deep*.



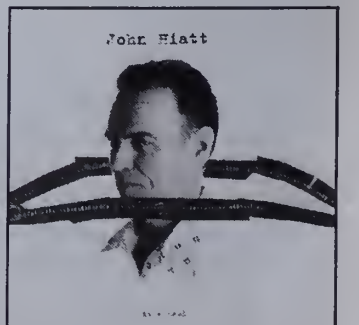
The musical tone is fairly relaxed rap/hip-hop with sporadic pockets of r&b. The lyrical tone, however, is quite intense. The *Gravediggaz* pack profound angst with respect to black oppression, but with a twist! They focus greatly on black vs. black violence due in large part to the harshness of ghetto life. The 'Diggaz message is to be smart, stay strong and do something about it. This attitude is perfectly expressed in *Elimination Process* (on ghettos): "if not for the courage of a chosen few/(they) stay dumb, deaf and blind."

The *Gravediggaz* promote the acquisition and use of knowledge. They demonstrate their own immense, arcane intellect through use of clever literary and scientific analogy. RZA brings along ingenuity and influence from the Wu Tang experience which definitely marks *The Pick, the Sickle and the Shovel* as a strong release which carries a strong message. The message is from *Outro*, "positive education captivates constant elevation!"

—Vinay Bhalla

John Hiatt Little Head (Capitol)

Few people have heard of John Hiatt, but many have heard his songs. For years, Hiatt has been a staple in the music industry cranking out hit after hit, and making other people a whole lot of money. Hiatt writes songs for other people to perform and rarely gets any attention. In fact, Hiatt may be one of those guys that the Spice Girls carry around with them on the road, because he brings us such lovable hits as *Wannabe*.



Apparently sick of being the "behind the scenes" man, Hiatt has embarked on a solo journey that will hopefully end soon. Hiatt's album *Little Head*, blends together the melodies of a 1970s Dutch pomo with the sexual innuendo of a fifteen year old adolescent. If you can get by the multiple banal sexual references, you'll find an album that lacks talent and soul. The front cover depicts Hiatt's head protruding from a zipper, as if to suggest that Hiatt is some sort of phallic messiah.

This album should convince Hiatt to stay behind the scenes where he belongs. *Little Head*, little voice, little talent.

—Mike Rachmel



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Richie Hawtin spins *Ritual 1: Creation*

Some might refer to the event I attended as a "rave", but I prefer to refrain from using this generic, general, stereotypical term. *Ritual 1: Creation* was viewed as an exposition of various art forms. It took place on Friday, November 14 at the Masonic Temple on 888 Yonge, above the Concert Hall. *Ritual* exhibited a variety of art forms including visual art, film and of course, music.

CONCERT REVIEW

BY VINAY BHALLA

Better known by his side project names, Plastikman or F.U.S.E., **Richie Hawtin** is arguably the best house and techno master residing in Canada. Essentially, the entire 600-plus crowd were there to see **Hawtin** spin, but before his entrance, there was a lot of exploring to be done.

There was a small, well-attended theatre upstairs. The "art gallery" of the party featured a variety of posters, paintings and sculptures and an experimental music group. Their instruments, which included plumbing tubes, sheet metal and gas cylinders, somehow created a truly awe-inspiring sound. These experimental harmonics were broadcast through speakers into the "temple" portion of the Masonic Temple which resembled a large, medieval courtroom

(much like the chamber of the Stonecutters from *The Simpsons*!) Party-goers would "chill-out" eventually in this room.

At exactly 2:15 a.m., **Hawtin** took to the turntables and mixer and began his set. He led the crowd through his signature tempo, slowing it down to give people a periodic rest only to bring the beat back hard moments later. **Richie** finished his amazing set around 5 a.m., when **Algorhythm** took over. **Algorhythm** kept the pace up for a while with his technical assault, but he usually excels at soothing the tempo before bringing the party to a halt. On this night, however, he wasn't very smooth. Repeatedly it seemed that he was finished, but then he rebounded with some harder beats to keep things alive. It was about 7 a.m. at this point and the most of the crowd was rather tired.

Overall, *Ritual 1: Creation* was an incredible event that blended imaginative, thought-provoking art with progressive house and techno music. It definitely combatted "the history of our capitalist, puritanical society that places spiritual beliefs (asceticism) and celebration (entertainment, hedonism) as ideologically incompatible ideas". (Phrase quoted from the *Ritual 1: Creation* flyer created by Sally McKay.)

New metal releases

Saxon

Unleash the Beast
(CMC International)

At a time when most metal bands are seeking extreme sounds by altering vocals or using electronics to replace instruments, it's refreshing to hear good straight-edged metal. **Saxon** successfully produces this kind of music, sounding comparable to the early Dio years of Black Sabbath, or even the more contemporary Iced Earth.



The title track, *Unleash the Beast*, starts off with an excellent drum solo, with the standard metal guitar accompaniment, but manages to keep a high-paced feel. The songs are not mind-blowing, but they are well written, with a near-poetic quality that lends itself well to being sung. Helping the lyrics along is Biff Byford's clean vocal delivery. His voice literally comes out of the songs and grabs you with energy, pulling you in and giving you something to remember. This man has the lungs and vocal chords of a young Ronnie James Dio, and he certainly uses them to his full advantage.

Unleash the Beast maintains a relentless pace of full-speed straight-edged metal all the way to the tenth track, *Absent Friends*, where it mellows into a soulful semi-acoustic ballad displaying the wide range of styles, and incredible emotional potential that this group possesses. *Unleash the Beast* wraps up with *All Hell Breaking Loose*, a crushing return to the speed based, guitar driven, relent-

less metal style which permeates the entire album. This track is definitely a grand finale, leaving no doubt in the listener's mind that this is a band which intends to have a long future in the music industry. If this album is any indication, **Saxon** will certainly have staying power like few other bands.

—Chris Wagner

Ozzy Osbourne
The Ozzman Cometh
(Epic)

Most "best of" packages consist of a predictable selection of the artist's catalogue of "hits" or some popular material, with an extra song or two thrown in to appeal to collectors. **Ozzman** offers the unexpected, plus some real goodies, including four tunes from his *Basement Tapes*, the Black Sabbath rehearsal recordings from 1970. Though obviously not as polished as the familiar studio versions, these songs have the rawness and live, barroom-floor energy of a very unusual band destined for legendary status. The alternate lyrics to *War Pigs* are here as well.



The package also includes a bonus CD with a 1988 **Ozzy** interview that could almost earn an "explicit lyrics" warning all by itself, if set to music. Although a timepiece, the "bat head" incident is not explained in this otherwise definitive interview. But hey, it's free, and people with multimedia are also treated to a few video clips and a weird mini-game where the object is to smash and collect **Ozzy's** virtual bones.

—Chris Jackson

NERM technology really shines

Although artificial intelligence has not been invented, artificial life is featured in **Anark's** ground-breaking new game, *Galapagos: Mendel's Escape*. This game breaks the mould with 3-D accelerated graphics, panning 3-D sound, frustrating puzzles and a revolutionary new technology, the Non-stationary Entropic Reduction Mapping (NERM). In fact, the game itself is really nothing more than a showcase for the NERM. The NERM allows the character to actually learn responses and react to its environment much like a real animal.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

BY BROCK WAGER

In *Galapagos*, the objective is to lead Mendel, the cute, four-legged, bug-like protagonist to freedom, through space-aged laboratories, labyrinthine subterranean caves flowing with glowing liquid metal,

and other surreal environments. Unlike other games, the player has no control over Mendel's actions besides a gentle nudge and must instead trigger various objects in the environment to which Mendel will react. This is where the NERM technology really shines. For example, Mendel must learn to not crawl off a ledge but to crawl towards an elevator. At first, Mendel may walk off the edge and plummet to its death several times before it recognizes the edge's danger. Eventually Mendel will catch on and avoid walking off of edges and proceed to the next area.

The puzzles are well deliberated at every level. Furthermore, the third-person viewpoint, facilitated by a freely swinging camera, allows for some of the best cinematic effects seen on the small screen in quite a while. For more information on *Galapagos: Mendel's Escape*, visit the **Anark** website

(<http://www.anark.com>) and download the demo (8 Megs) as this will allow you to see how well your system can handle the game. It will also get you hooked on the seemingly simple game-play.

You'll only be able to resist buying *Galapagos* for a little while before you give into the siren's song, er, chirp, of Mendel.



Galapagos: Mendel's Escape
(Anark Game Studios)

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Team Entry Deadline **Athletics office.**
is around the corner...

Men's - Wednesday November 26

Women's - Thursday November 27

recreational fridays

11-1pm



Indoor Soccer

1-3pm



Volleyball

3-4pm



1/2 Volleyball
1/2 Basketball

4-5:30pm



Archery

5:30-7:30pm



Badminton

Congratulations

To our University of
Toronto 1997-98 Interfaculty
Championship teams.

UTM Women's Field Hockey
UTM Men's Touch Football

Both teams defeated
Scarborough in the finals!!

**Best of luck to our Women's
Division 1 Basketball Team
as they strive for our 3rd
Interfaculty Championship!!**

Women's Volleyball Players Clinic

All UTM students are welcome to attend
this clinic hosted by U of T Varsity Blues
Women's Coach Kristine DraKich.

Wed. Nov. 26 • 7:30-9:00pm

Come out and watch the Men's Intramural
Indoor Soccer & Basketball Championship
Finals this week in the Gym!

SPORTS

The sociology of sports in the 90's—a religious event

Sports are multi-faceted: There is more to sports than winning or losing; there is more than just the score. This new column entitled *Beyond The Score* explores the many facets that make up the sports world. This first installment looks at the sociology of sports.

Vince Lombardi, former National Football League (NFL) coach, is known for his famous quote: "Winning isn't everything—it's the only thing." This sentiment has been common in sports, especially in the '90s. The win-

BEYOND THE SCORE

BY NELSON DE SOUSA

at-all-cost mentality has superseded the philosophy of, "It doesn't matter if you win or lose it's how you play the game." However, with the joy and exhilaration of winning, comes its down-side: losing and failure.

In North America today there is a huge emphasis on winning. Society puts tremendous pressure on its athletes and sports teams to win, with the idea that there is no greater distance than between first and second finishes in sports. Whether athletes and teams compete head-to-head, against a clock, or a record, the goal is to be victorious—to be number one.

This obsession with winning causes sports to become a religion for many people. Faithful parishioners congregate at the places of worship—stadiums—to take part in the communion of sporting competition. They have no control over the game, so they pray, and believe in the possibility of victory. Die-hard fans suffer and rejoice along with them. The winning of championships causes celebrations among people, who burst from the stadium, into the streets.

The worship and idolization of individuals takes on judo-Christian connotations. We place athletes on pedestals and witness their magnificent feats. Basketball great Michael Jordan is a figure known world-wide, and is loved by children and adults alike who view him as a hero, icon, legend, superstar. These titles lift him to a heavenly realm which fans gaze, and admire him. However, this emphasis, to no fault of Jordan, is how athletes are perceived in North America.

Athletes, instead of parents and teachers, become role models for children. Children cover every inch of their bedroom walls with posters of their favourite sports stars, trading cards and wearing team jerseys featuring the names and numbers of their idols: Jordan, Gretzky, Aikman, Griffey Jr. The list goes on.

There is a flip-side to being the hero. In the 1993 World Series, Toronto Blue Jays' Joe Carter hit a home run off the Philadelphia Phillies' Mitch Williams to win the series. The scorn Williams received from Phillie fans included death threats that led Williams to fear for his life. He is no longer in professional baseball.

The quest for stardom by professional athletes has shaped North America's view on sports. In many sports the individual performance receives as much, if not more, attention than the team's accomplishments. Ken Griffey Jr. and Mark McGwire's pursuit of Roger Maris' home run record was the lead story on many sports highlight shows this year. Both players deserve mention, but, as in this case, the media furthers the importance of the individual over the collective.

Team emphasis is prevalent in other societies. For example, a game played

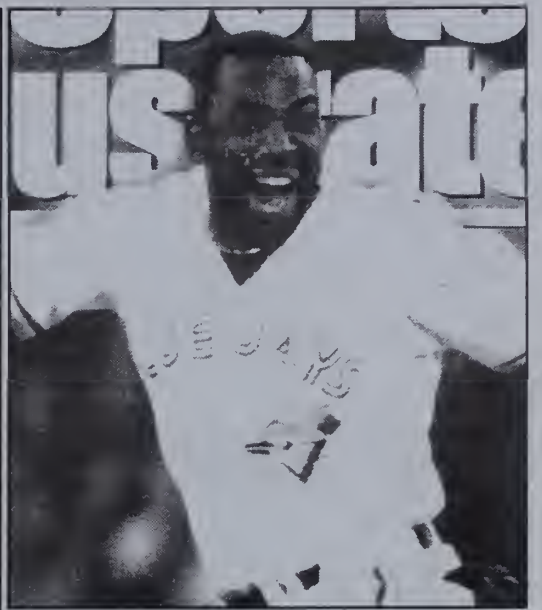
by the children of the Motu people of New Guinea, called Paro, involves children forming two circles—an inner and an outer—in a pool, and the inner group tries to swim under the outer circle. Cooperation is the key focus of the game and there are no winners.

Competition and winning are stressed in professional sports and this ideology is emulated by today's youth. The intoxication of victory becomes so alluring that other elements of sport disappears, such as camaraderie, sportsmanship, physical fitness and friendship.

These are the aspects of sport that should be highlighted. Instead, children want to become superstar athletes and have the fame and fortune that goes along with it.

The effect is not solely on children—adults also feel this need to win in sports. A "friendly" game of hockey can bring about fierce competition, which can lead to violence. The pleasure of playing the game and the overall love of the sport takes a back seat.

The importance of winning is evident in sports gambling. People gamble money, and property (both legally



Michael Jordan and Joe Carter celebrated championship victories. Both appeared on the front cover of magazines, even though they play team sports, highlighting the emphasis placed on the individual.

photos courtesy of Sports Illustrated

and illegally) in the hopes that their picks win or cover the spread. This further devalues sports by using it as a tool to generate income.

The origins of the word "sport" is rooted in "to disport", meaning that the activity provides amusement, diversion and fun. With the distractions of ath-

lete-stardom, gambling and the manipulation by corporations and the media, the true definition of sport in North America has been lost.

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Women's basketball heading to playoff showdown with Pharmacy

BY JACK KRIST

Last week the UTM women's interfaculty division I basketball season ended on a winning note. On Friday November 14, UTM defeated New York's Medaille College 50-40. The UTM team trailed 20-19 after the first half due to poor defense and inconsistent shooting, but they showed a defensive intensity in the second half that gave the team a certain rhythm. Point guard Steph Deluca hit four three-pointers in the second half after going 0-3 from the three-point line in the first half. "The team refused to lose the game and the second half was won on pure hustle and aggressive defense," said coach Jack Krist who is extremely impressed with the teams performance to date. "We have only played one poor game all season: a 20-point loss to Phys-Ed". The women's team had four wins and two losses in league play and a 1-1

exhibition record. The women's league is quite competitive this year—three teams have tied for second place, with 4-2 records. Because of the point differential system, UTM's team was dropped to fourth place.

Last Thursday, UTM met the fifth-place Scarborough team and defeated them 55-40 in the first round of the playoffs. During the regular season, UTM had beaten Scarborough by 20 points in two matches. "The entire team played an excellent game," said Krist. "The defense forced many turnovers and our presses were the key to the victory."

UTM will have to maintain this level of play on Monday night as they face the undefeated Pharmacy team in the semi-finals. UTM met Pharmacy with only five players in the regular season matchup. Foul trouble led to UTM's subsequent loss of two players in the last two minutes of the game. "I am confi-

dent that if our team plays the way they have been playing lately we can beat Pharmacy," said Krist.

Come down to the field house to support your UTM women's basketball team on Monday, November 24 at 8:30 p.m.

GAME NOTES

The three game cancellations due to snow were played this past week. **Women's interfaculty soccer** lost their semi final game against Scarborough College. UTM had a perfect 6-0 record during the regular season, and won their quarter-final game by default.

Men's interfaculty soccer lost their playoff game to Scarborough on Thursday.

Men's interfaculty rugby forfeited their quarter-final game against Innis College.

Argos win Grey Cup, but does anyone care?

BY NELSON DE SOUSA

The Toronto Argonauts won their second consecutive Grey Cup this fall; however, little attention has been given to this noteworthy accomplishment.

The turnout at last week's victory parade downtown paled in comparison to that at the two Blue Jays' victory parades in '92 and '93.

The Canadian Football League (CFL) has seen its popularity drop over the past few decades. It is understandable if some Torontonians aren't jazzed up about the Argos being the cream of the crop in a league with just seven teams. Nonetheless, the Argonauts have brought a pair of championships in as many years, to a city starved for a successful team.

The young Raptors are still too green to be championship-bound. The Blue Jays have been on the downswing for the last few years after their glory days of 1992-93 and the Maple Leafs...well, it's been 30 YEARS! (Enough said). It is in this context that the

Argonauts victory should be evaluated,

Not only did the Argonauts win this year's Grey Cup, but they did it in convincing fashion; dominating the game as they did during the regular season. The Argonauts have the best player in the CFL in quarterback Doug Flutie, who claimed his sixth most valuable player (MVP) this year, as well as the MVP in the Grey Cup game.

Flutie's dominance at the quarterback position has been unparalleled in recent years. His awesome talents have never been fully appreciated because of the CFL's calibre of play. Cynics would be quick to point out that Flutie could not excel in the "better" National Football League (NFL).

Flutie does deserve congratulations, along with his team, on a great season. The people of Toronto should be thankful they have something to cheer about because it will be a long while before a championship is won by one of Toronto's other three professional teams.



Stick to football! Members of the Toronto Argonauts, fresh off their Grey Cup victory, shoot some hoops at the UTM gym. photo by Vicki Schelstraete

It's Time



For Santa's Arrival
Saturday
November 29
11:00am

Visit Santa in his workshop. All of Santa's little visitors will receive a candy cane. Photos are available.

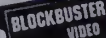
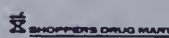
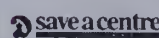
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